

Sets Precedent

# OAS Action in Dominica Leaves Hope for Future

Sporadically shattered quiet now exists in the Dominican Republic. But the international repercussions of what has happened there will long be felt.

It was inevitable when we acted in Santa Domingo that accusations of "gunboat diplomacy" would be voiced at home and abroad. But this time, the criticism has an extra sting, for we have no wish to alienate Latin Americans who basically sympathize with the United States but who fear we will act hastily when anyone cries "Communist!"

Nonintervention is perhaps the most cherished principle for Latin Americans. It is al-

so upheld firmly by the United States. Yet we and most countries in Central and South America abhor communism and wish to ensure this hemisphere's freedom from it. Governmental stability and saving innocent lives are no less vital concerns of democratic countries. The difficulty lies in reconciling nonintervention with maintenance of freedom and security.

IN THE ABSENCE of an established force of the Organization of American States, however, and regardless of preference, we had no choice but to go into the Dominican Republic when we did.

Our troops entered this Caribbean land following an urgent request by the American Embassy. Chaos precluded adequate official protection of our citizens and other nationals by Dominican officials. Soon after April 28, more than 4,000 people had been evacuated to safety.

The humanitarian aspect of United States participation is still a considerable factor. In Santo Domingo and other battle-torn districts, civilians have been provided with well over 14,000 tons of emergency food and 40,000 pounds of medicine, as well as medical care. Some needy areas are still receiving assistance.

THE EXTENT of the Communist threat in the rebellion has been questioned. But subversion and infiltration do not always reveal themselves clearly. We could scarcely expect evidence more incontrovertible than that on which the President acted. To wait for more proof would have been to court another Cuba.

Later reports by Latin American OAS emissaries corroborate United States estimates and show that communism in the Dominican Republic was not a figment of the North American imagination.

That the initial presence of United States troops and then of the new Inter-American Force prevented anarchy is indisputable. A country with a politically tortured and violent history cannot be expected to right itself after a regime is overthrown without further bloodshed.

THE TEMPORARY peace-keeping force of the OAS has set a precedent. Establishment of a permanent hemispheric force, possibly to be considered in August, would hopefully preclude our ever-

having to act unilaterally again.

Nations and groups where we have misinterpreted our willingness to discuss differences have been shown that the United States has not grown reluctant to act when necessary to preserve democratic government, or to protect its citizens. Prompt movement in the Dominican Republic surely dispelled any low estimates of the strength of our commitment.

Subsequent encouragement and extensive participation in OAS efforts to help Dominicans achieve full stability should leave no doubts that we far prefer hemispheric cooperation to unilateral intervention.



FATHER AND SON . . . About to embark on his own career in aviation, 20-year-old Tom Green tries on the cap of his father, Continental Airlines Capt. Max Green. Enroute to basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex., Tom was a passenger from Los Angeles on a Continental flight piloted by his father. Tom is a 1963 graduate of West High School. The Greens live at 5647 Marin Linda St.

## Water from Gemini Capsule Given to Torrance Schools

A bottle of water which recently whizzed through more than one million miles in outer space has been donated to a Torrance elementary school.

Extracted from the tank of the Gemini IV, the sealed bottle was donated to Fern-Greenwood School by Michael Tanza, a student in Mrs. Betty Lilley's class.

The water was given to Tanza's father, Gae Tanza, a process lab employe of Garrett AirResearch at Cape Kennedy, Fla., during the dis-

Once Each Week

## Driver Needed to Take Youngster to Hospital

A six-year-old Mexican lad must stand at the window and watch as other children his age play on skateboards, bicycles, and scooters.

The boy, a victim of cerebral palsy, has been living with a Torrance family for several months while undergoing corrective surgery at the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. He also is receiving intensive—and free—therapy from a Torrance physician each day.

Each Wednesday, the boy must return to the hospital for special attention to his braces. Many people have given of their time to provide transportation for the youngster, helping to speed the day when he may be able to join in a baseball game or ride a bicycle.

But vacations have interrupted the transportation schedule. A driver is needed for the important trip to Los Angeles each Wednesday. The driver need accept no responsibility for handling the youngster—merely drive him and his foster mother to Los Angeles and then back to Torrance.

Help is urgently needed, according to Mrs. Arthur R. Turner, executive director of the Volunteer Bureau. Persons who can make the trip—once, twice, or regularly—are urged to call Mrs. Turner at TE 3-5227 any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday morning.

On your summer vacation trip, do not attempt to make too many miles in one day. The Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council blames fatigue as a factor in many traffic accidents.

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